

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-31 (canceled).

32. (currently amended) A method for treating or preventing an infection caused by Gram positive bacteria in a patient comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition,

wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises at least one of [[an]] a monoclonal chimeric or humanized antibody to lipoteichoic acid of Gram positive bacteria[[, or]] and a fragment, region, or derivative thereof of the monoclonal chimeric or humanized antibody, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and

wherein the monoclonal chimeric or humanized antibody, fragment, region, or derivative thereof

(a) binds to lipoteichoic acid at a level that is twice background or greater,
and

(b) enhances the opsonization of Gram positive bacteria by 75% or more.

33. canceled.

34. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[33]]~~ 32, wherein the monoclonal chimeric or humanized antibody is MAB Hu96-110.

35. canceled.

36. (currently amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the monoclonal chimeric or humanized antibody, fragment, region, or derivative thereof binds to a peptide sequence chosen from:

W R M Y F S H R H A H L R S P (SEQ ID NO: 1) and

W H W R H R I P L Q L A A G R (SEQ ID NO: 2).

37. (currently amended) A method for treating or preventing an infection caused by Gram positive bacteria in a patient comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises at least one of ~~[[an]]~~ a monoclonal chimeric or humanized antibody to lipoteichoic acid of Gram positive bacteria~~[[, or]]~~ and a fragment, region, or derivative thereof of the monoclonal chimeric or humanized antibody, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and

wherein the monoclonal chimeric or humanized antibody, fragment, region, or derivative thereof bind to a peptide sequence chosen from:

W R M Y F S H R H A H L R S P (SEQ ID NO: 1) and

W H W R H R I P L Q L A A G R (SEQ ID NO: 2).

38. canceled.

39. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[38]]~~ 37, wherein the monoclonal chimeric or humanized antibody is MAB Hu96-110.

40. canceled.

41. (withdrawn) A method for treating or preventing an infection caused by Gram positive bacteria in a patient comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a lipoteichoic acid epitope peptide mimic, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and wherein the peptide mimic is a peptide sequence chosen from:

- (a) W R M Y F S H R H A H L R S P (SEQ ID NO: 1);
- (b) W H W R H R I P L Q L A A G R (SEQ ID NO: 2); and
- (c) peptide sequences that are substantially homologous to the sequences of (a) or (b).

42. (previously presented) A method for treating or preventing an infection caused by Gram positive bacteria in a patient comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a peptide encoded by DNA of the variable region of the anti-lipoteichoic acid antibody of Figure 12, or by a sequence that is at least 70% homologous to that DNA, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

43. (previously presented) A method for treating or preventing an infection caused by Gram positive bacteria in a patient comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a peptide characterized by amino acids corresponding to one or more of the Complementarity Determining Regions of the variable regions of the anti-lipoteichoic acid antibody of Figure 12, or amino acids that are at least 70% homologous to the Complementarity Determining Regions.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the Complementarity Determining Regions are derived from MAB 96-110.